

Docket No. 42534-9100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yutaka Toya

Serial No.: 10/690,314

Filed: 10/21/2003

For: SEWING MACHINE NEEDLE

Examiner: Ismael Izaguirre

Group Art Unit: 3765

Date of Notice of Allowance:
03/23/2004

Confirmation No.: 4527

April 13, 2004

Irvine, California

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(d)**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In an attempt to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the U.S. Patent Office the following references, which was found during the prosecution of a co-pending European Patent Application:

U.S. Patent No. 3,347,192
U.S. Patent No. 6,332,416
Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 11-216289
European Patent Application No. 0 538 486

Copies of these references and a form PTO-A820 are attached.

Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) is before payment of the Issue Fee for the above-identified patent application.

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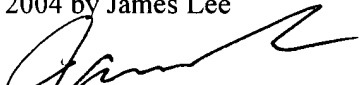
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Please charge the \$180.00 fee (37 CFR §1.17(p)) for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) to our Deposit Account No. 19-2814, a copy of this letter is enclosed for that purpose.

The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that the items contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was discovered and cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart international application not more than three months prior to filing this statement.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would help further the prosecution of this case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patent, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 13, 2004 by James Lee

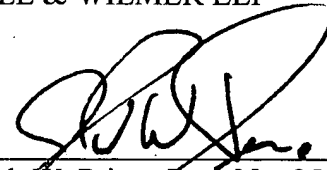


Signature

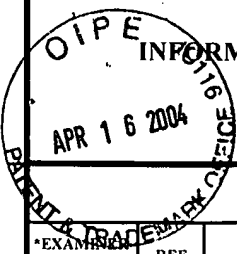
Date of Signature: April 13, 2004

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER LLP



Joseph W. Price, Reg. No. 25,124
1920 Main Street, Suite 1200
Irvine, CA 92614
949/253-4920

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION***(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Docket Number (Optional)

42534-9100

Application Number

10/690,314

Applicant(s)

Yutaka Toya

Filing Date

10/21/2003

Group Art Unit

3765**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,347,192	10/1967	R.H. Lukins			
		6,332,416	12/2001	Wohnhas et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		11-216289	10-08-99	Patent Abstracts of Japan			✓	
		0 538 486	11-05-92	European			✓	

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.